



ICE National Gang Enforcement Report **September 12 – October 10**

The Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is pleased to introduce the new *ICE National Gang Enforcement Report*, a bi-monthly summary of enforcement actions resulting from "Operation Community Shield," ICE's ongoing, national anti-gang initiative.

OVERVIEW

ICE launched Operation Community Shield in February 2005 to confront the national problem of violent street gangs. The goals of the initiative are to disrupt, dismantle, and prosecute violent street gangs by employing the full range of authorities and investigative tools available to ICE.

Under this initiative, ICE is employing its broad immigration authorities (both criminal and administrative immigration authorities) against foreign-born gang members. ICE is also employing its broad customs authorities to combat drug trafficking and other crimes committed by these gangs.

In addition, ICE is using its considerable financial investigative expertise to target the financial infrastructure of these criminal organizations and their illegally derived assets.

PARTNER AND PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Strong partnerships and cooperation with existing local, state, and federal anti-gang efforts are essential to the success of Operation Community Shield.

On September 23, federal agents from ICE partnered with the Detroit Police Department Gang Squad as part of a coordinated law enforcement operation that led to the arrest of eight members of the Muertos-Tresces street gang. All eight men are illegal aliens from Mexico, and are currently in ICE custody pending removal procedures. "Gangs will not find a safe haven in Detroit neighborhoods," said Detroit Police Chief Ella Bully-Cummings. "We will continue our partnerships with federal law enforcement to confront any threat to our communities." At the time of the arrest, Guitterez-Pasencia, a previously deported felon, was in possession of a .357 revolver. ICE has presented his case to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Michigan, for criminal prosecution for the violations of alien in possession of a firearm and illegal reentry after deportation.

STATISTICS

Below are statistics on the arrests of gang leaders, gang members, and gang associates. These include arrests on criminal charges as well as arrests on administrative immigration charges.

Arrests

Total to date: 1,419

September 26 - October 2: 27





10/11/2005

Top 10 gangs/by number of arrests

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. MS-13 (723) | 5. Vatos Locos (30) | 9. Muertos Trece (12) |
| 2. SUR-13 (252) | 6. Latin Kings (29) | 10. Low Rider (12) |
| 3. 18 th Street (47) | 7. Mexican Posse (20) | |
| 4. Tortilla Flats (32) | 8. Sombra Negra (15) | |

CASE EXAMPLES

September 22: Boston -- High Ranking MS-13 Gang Members Arrested by ICE

Officers assigned to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE's) fugitive operations division arrested a member of the violent "Mara Salvatrucha" (MS-13) gang here yesterday. Escobar-Leiva has been identified by police as a high-ranking member of the MS-13. He has an extensive criminal history of over 20 arraignments including being charged with breaking and entering daytime with intent to commit a felony with a machine gun, and has several convictions for crimes that include larceny and malicious destruction of property. He is also wanted on five outstanding state warrants.

Septemeber 22 – Charlotte – ICE, FBI and Macklenburg PD Arrest Dangerous Gang Member

Special agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs (ICE), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and officers of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department arrested a dangerous gang member of the Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13). Edison Andre Carrasco-Molina, a citizen of Chile, has a criminal history that includes convictions for assault, trespass, unlawful concealment and disorderly conduct. Carrasco-Molina was in possession of a rifle at the time of his arrest. The U.S. Attorney's Office has accepted the case for federal criminal prosecution for the violation of illegal alien/felon in possession of a firearm.

October 6 – 7 Gang Members Arrested in ICE –Led Multi-Agency Crackdown

Seven gang members were arrested by special agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and officers assigned to the gang task force units of the Cobb and Hall County Police Departments. Among those was Oscar Guzman-Galarza, a 20-year-old who openly admitted to being a member of the SUR-13 gang. Guzman-Galarza was previously convicted of forgery in the 2nd degree. All of those arrested are citizens of Mexico and illegally in the country. The men belonged to various local gangs including the 18th Street, SUR-13, GTO-13 and Riverside Locos.

** Photos and wanted posters of the fugitives are available at www.ice.gov.*

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact ICE Public Affairs, 202-514-2648



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